

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A motorcycle comprising:
a seat supporting member provided extending in a rearward direction from a body,

the seat supporting member comprising:

an upper seat supporting member with a seat in place; and

a lower seat supporting member connected to and separated in a downward direction from the upper seat supporting member, the lower seat supporting member is configured as a plate-like member in a shape to cover a region above at least an exhaust pipe; and

a rear arm supported on the body through a pair of left and right rear cushions for an up and down swinging movement.

wherein a front portion of the lower seat supporting member passes through a space between the pair of left and right rear cushions and the exhaust pipe and is attached to the body.

2. (Original) The motorcycle according to claim 1, wherein the lower seat supporting member has a structure in which a frame portion for supporting the seat opens in a downward direction.

3. (Canceled).

4. (Currently amended) ~~The A motorcycle according to claim 1 comprising:~~
a seat supporting member provided extending in a rearward direction from a body, the seat supporting member comprising:

an upper seat supporting member with a seat in place; and

a lower seat supporting member connected to and separated in a downward direction from the upper seat supporting member, the lower seat supporting

member is configured as a plate-like member in a shape to cover a region above at least an exhaust pipe.

wherein the lower seat supporting member extends to a position where the lower seat supporting member is interposed between rear cushions and the exhaust pipe, to cover the exhaust pipe.

5. (Original) The motorcycle according to claim 1, wherein the lower seat supporting member has a shape to cover a muffler in addition to the exhaust pipe.

6. (Original) The motorcycle according to claim 1, wherein the lower seat supporting member covers a portion of the exhaust pipe where a catalyst is disposed inside.

7. (Previously Presented) The motorcycle according to claim 1, wherein the upper seat supporting member is configured as a plate-like member and wherein the seat supporting member is made up of the upper seat supporting member and the lower seat supporting member formed in a hollow shape and defining a heat insulating space therebetween.

8. (Original) The motorcycle according to claim 1, wherein the seat supporting member is connected to a body frame.

9. (Original) The motorcycle according to claim 1, further comprising an engine mounted on the body frame.

10. (Original) The motorcycle according to claim 9, wherein the exhaust pipe is connected to the engine and disposed below the seat.

11. (Original) The motorcycle according to claim 5, wherein the muffler is positioned above a rear wheel.

12. (Original) The motorcycle according to claim 1, wherein the upper seat supporting member and the lower seat supporting member are made of a heat insulating material.

13. (Original) The motorcycle according to claim 12, wherein the heat insulating material is a carbon resin.

14-15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously presented) A motorcycle comprising:
a seat supporting member extending in a rearward direction from a body,
the seat supporting member comprising:
an upper seat supporting member with a seat in place; and
a lower seat supporting member connected to and separated in a downward
direction from the upper seat supporting member, the lower seat supporting
member is configured as a plate like member in a shape to cover a region above at
least an exhaust pipe; and
means for covering a region surrounding a muffler,
wherein a rear arm is supported on the body through a pair of left and right
rear cushions for an up and down swinging movement, and a front portion of the
lower seat supporting member, which passes through a space between the pair of
left and right rear cushions and the exhaust pipe is attached to the body.

17. (Previously presented) A motorcycle comprising:
a seat supporting member extending in a rearward direction from a body,
the seat supporting member comprising:
an upper seat supporting member with a seat in place; and
a lower seat supporting member connected to and separated in a downward
direction from the upper seat supporting member, the lower seat supporting
member is configured as a plate like member in a shape to cover a region above at
least an exhaust pipe; and
means for covering a region surrounding a muffler,
wherein the lower seat supporting member extends to a position where it
the lower seat supporting member is interposed between rear cushions and the
exhaust pipe, to cover the exhaust pipe.

18-20. (Canceled)